

Claims

1. A composition for controlling the bleed fastness of organic colouring pigments in paper coatings comprising
  - a) 1 to 30% by weight, based on the total weight of the composition, of an organic colouring pigment,
  - b) 1 to 20% by weight, based on the total weight of the composition, of one or more binders,
  - c) 0 to 20% by weight, based on the total weight of the composition, of starch,
  - d) 0 to 10% by weight, based on the total weight of the composition, of an anionic direct dye,
  - e) 0 to 10% by weight, based on the total weight of the composition one or more auxiliaries and
  - f) water to 100%.
2. A composition according to claim 1, wherein the organic colouring pigment is selected from pigments described in the Colour Index International (The Society of Dyers and Colourists, 1997).
3. A composition according to claims 1 or 2, in which the binder, component b), comprises a stable aqueous dispersion of a water insoluble component and a water soluble component, whereby the water insoluble component comprises coalescable polymer particles which have a  $T_g$  less than 55°C and at least 50% of which have a particle size less than 1 micron and the water soluble component comprises a water soluble polymer capable of inhibiting coalescence of said polymer particles, or a water soluble polymer and a component capable of inhibiting coalescence of said polymer particles, wherein said water insoluble component comprises greater than 3% and less than 75% by weight of the binder solids and said water soluble component comprises greater than 25% and less than 97% of said binder solids.
4. A composition according to claims 1 or 2, in which the binder, component b), is a water insoluble synthetic polymer derived from one or more dienes and/or unsaturated monomers i.e. latex.

5. A composition according to any one of claims 1 to 5, wherein the anionic direct dye is selected from those dyes suitable for the dyeing of paper.
6. A composition according to any one of claims 1 to 6, wherein the auxiliary is selected from fixing agents, binder resins, insolubilizing and/or crosslinking agents, anionic, cationic and neutral polymers, wet-strength agents, antifoams and biocides.
7. A method of controlling the bleed fastness of organic colouring pigments in paper coating compositions, by applying to the paper a composition as defined in any one of claims 1 to 6.
8. Use of the composition according to any one of claims 1 to 6, for controlling the bleed fastness of organic colouring pigments in paper coating compositions.
9. Paper, which has been treated with the composition as defined in claims 1 to 6.